

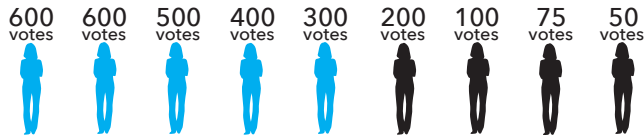
# ELECTION OF JUDGES

For elections, circuits with more than one judge will be separated into divisions according to the number of judges serving the circuit.

- Judges will be elected in MAY, instead of November
- Judges will run as nonpartisan candidates instead of being associated with a political party
- Candidates will be located on the nonpartisan ballot like the Board of Education race

Example:

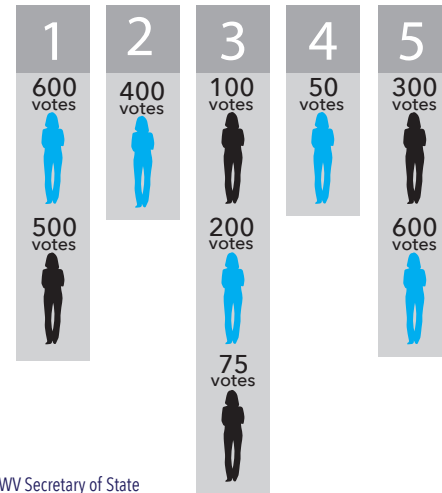
PREVIOUSLY



Previously, the elected judges were the top 5 vote-getters in each race.

CURRENTLY

The candidate in each division with the most votes will be elected, regardless of the number of votes received in comparison to other divisions.



ELECTED JUDGES

# 2016 ELECTION CHANGE: ELECTION of JUDGES

## ABOUT THE COURTS

### Supreme Court of Appeals

serves the entire state and consists of five justices

Supreme court justices hear appeals when someone loses a civil or criminal case in circuit court.

### Circuit Court

represented by 74 judges divided into 31 circuits

Circuit court judges have jurisdiction over civil cases at law over \$2,500 with limited exceptions; all civil cases in equity; all felonies and misdemeanors; and other specialty cases.

### Family Court

represented by 47 judges divided into 27 circuits

Family court judges hear and resolve disputes involving children and families.

### Magistrates

the 55 counties are represented by 158 magistrates

Magistrate judges hear misdemeanor cases, conduct preliminary felony hearings and hear civil arguments with \$5,000 or less in dispute.

## What you need to do:

- REGISTER TO VOTE  
online, by mail, or in person
- Locate your polling place
- COME OUT AND VOTE
- Look for NONPARTISAN section of the ballot to vote for judges

## What you need to know:

Judges will be elected in MAY instead of November

Judges will NOT run under any political party

- Supreme Court of Appeals justices
- Circuit Court judges
- Family Court judges
- Magistrates